

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Big Hit in St Louis

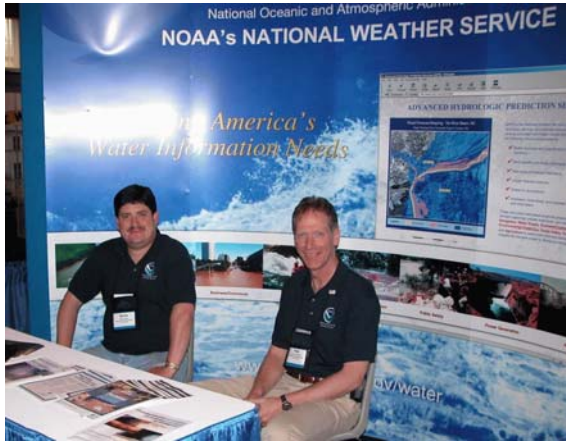


Figure 1 Kevin Lynott and Tom Donaldson

"When is AHPs going to be in my area," was a common question fielded by Tom Donaldson and Kevin Lynott (Figure 1) at the 27th annual conference of the [Association of State Floodplain Managers](#) (ASFPM) in St. Louis, Missouri, May 11-16, 2003.

Tom and Kevin, representing the [National Weather Service's](#) (NWS) [Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Service Hydrologic Service Division](#), hosted a new [Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#) (AHPs) exhibit. Using a laptop, they demonstrated a prototype real-time

flood map depicting the areal coverage of a flood in an urban area. In addition, they distributed many AHPs brochures.

They were assisted by Scott Dummer, Senior Service Hydrologist, [WFO St Louis Service](#) (Figure 2), who attended the conference.

The ASFPM represents 6,000 floodplain management practitioners, including the leading experts in flood hazard management throughout the U.S. and beyond. Nearly every state in the U.S. was represented at the conference, as well as a number of international guests.

This year's theme, "Lessons Learned: Gateway to Flood Mitigation", inspired over 900 government and private professionals with techniques to mitigate against the effects of flooding before floodwaters rise. Taking action *BEFORE* a flood is the surest and most effective way for reducing the effects of future flooding.



Figure 2 Scott Dummer

This premiere flood management training event in the country draws floodplain managers and planners at all levels of government, as well as engineers, consultants, researchers, insurance and non-profit organization experts involved in floodplain mapping, mitigation, response and recovery, and related disciplines. Important discussions this year included reflections on the Great Midwest Flood of '93 and how the recovery process from these floods has had a major influence on national flood programs and policies over the past decade.



Figure 3 Tom Donaldson

Tom Donaldson made an AHPS presentation to a standing room only crowd of more than 75 at one of the Thursday afternoon concurrent sessions. The subject generated a lot of interest from this group. There were several questions following his presentation covering a wide range of information pertaining to climate data, hydrologic forecasting and weather forecasting. There were also numerous conversations that continued after the session was over.

Two other presentations were given by NWS representatives during the week. Doug Marcy (Figure 4), a NWS representative on the [North Carolina Flood Mapping Program](#), presented “Flood Forecast Mapping in the Tar River Basin, NC: Providing New Flood Forecast in a GIS Environment.” Jayant Deo (Figure 5), the Social Scientist on contract with the [Central Region](#) of the NWS, presented “New Science and Information for Effective Forecasts.”



Figure 4 Doug Marcy



Figure 5 Jayant Deo